



# The Catholic University of America Student Government Association 2022-2023 Senate Session 8-7

January 23, 2023  
8:15 p.m. – 10:15 p.m. EST

## ROLL CALL

**Vice President** - Maevis Fahey

**Secretaries** – Gary Van Pelt and  
Natalie Zentz

**Parliamentarian** - Jon Norman

### **Class of 2023**

Curtis Bommer   X    
Matthew Drauschak   X  

### **Class of 2024**

Jamie Besendorfer   X    
Matthew Michels   X  

### **Class of 2025**

Neil D'Attelo   X    
Ashley Martin   X  

### **Class of 2026**

Michael Kish   X    
Bennett Bert   X  

### **School of Architecture**

Hess Djilioni   A    
Marisol Zayas   X  

### **School of Arts and Sciences**

Jordan Gehrig   X    
Jack Kruger   X  

### **School of Business**

Ryan Downing   X    
Samantha Phillips   X  

### **School of Engineering**

Luke Bubel   X    
Allison Ewing   X  

### **School of Music, Drama, and Art**

Anthony Curioso   X    
Daniel Campbell   X  

### **School of Nursing**

Cristian Henriquez   X    
Olivia Musick   X  

### **School of Philosophy**

Liam Foley   X    
Charlie Tamayo   X  

### **School of Social Service**

Michael McCarthy   X    
Frances Noory   X  

### **School of Theology**

Ryan Corey   X    
Andrea Suarez   X  

### **Key:**

X- Here, A- Absent

**NOTE:** Below is an agenda of all items scheduled to be considered for the present meeting. Notification is hereby proved that items on the agenda may be taken out of the order presented, two or more agenda items may be combined for consideration, and an agenda item may be removed from the agenda or discussion relating to an item on the agenda may be delayed at any time at the discretion of the presiding officer.

**CALL TO ORDER -- ROLL CALL** **8:15 PM**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** **8:16 PM**

**PRAYER** **8:17 PM**

**Senator Ewing** opens up in prayer with the Our Father.

**1. Public Comment** **8:18 PM**

**Corey Crawford**, Director of Disability Support Services Executive Initiative, rises in support of Resolution 022. He says this resolution ensures Epi-Pens are provided to students and staff is trained properly. He says it is a simple choice to vote yes and protect the lives of students.

A **student** rises in support of Resolution 023 and says it is a great resolution. He says DPS and other personnel play a critical role in guaranteeing the security of the university. He says voting in favor of the resolution is common sense, and providing DPS with feedback and support is very important.

**Executive Treasurer Karla Martinez-Victoria** says she is excited to introduce three new Treasury Board appointees. The first is Ellis Prescott, a senior double majoring in politics and economics. He serves as captain of the swim team and will provide new insight and feedback. Next is Carla Isaac, a sophomore accounting major, who will bring a lot of passion and dedication. Finally, Marco Varaldo di Pietro is a junior politics major and management minor, who has a lot of professional experience within the government. She says she is excited to have such diverse candidates and encourages the senators to vote in favor.

**Matthew Blomgren**, a freshman accounting major and Treasury Board director, rises in support of the three appointees. He says he is excited to work with them.

**Sean Scully**, a sophomore philosophy major, rises in support of the three new Treasury Board appointees and is excited to work with them.

**Carla Isaac**, a sophomore accounting major, says she is excited to join Treasury Board.

**Ellis Prescott**, a senior double majoring in politics and economics, says he is very excited to join Treasury Board.

**Marco Varaldo di Pietro**, a junior politics major and management minor, says he is also excited to join Treasury Board.

**Executive President Anthony Crnkovich** welcomes everyone back to the first Senate meeting of the new semester. He says he is excited to have three new Treasury Board appointees and a new senator appointment, Frances Noory. He says Francis is very spirited and enthusiastic, she will be a great asset to the senate and school. Lastly, he thanks Karla for her hard work as

treasurer, she has taken their accounting to a new level of professionalism.

## **2. Adoption of Agenda**

**8:24 PM**

Motion to adopt the agenda by Senator Bommer and seconded by Senator Suarez

Vote on adoption itself→ Adoption passes

## **3. Approval of Minutes**

**8:24 PM**

Motion to approve by Senator Michels and seconded by Senator Kruger

Vote on approval of meeting minutes for Senate 8-6→ Approval Passes

## **4. New Business**

### **A. Confirmation of Treasury Board Appointments**

- i. Carla Isaac, Ellis Prescott, Marco Varaldo di Pietro

**Madame President Pro Tempore** reads Carla Isaac's summary of what she has done and how she is a needed voice.

Motion to vote by Senator Michels and seconded by Senator Suarez

Vote on the appointment→ vote passes with 24 yay's

Carla Isaac is officially appointed as a Director in the Treasury Board.

Yay's: Bommer, Drauschak, Michels, D'Attelo, Martin, Kish, Bert, Zayas, Gehrig, Kruger, Downing, Phillips, Bubel, Ewing, Campbell, Curioso, Henriquez, Musick, Foley, Tamayo, McCarthy, Samuels, Corey, Suarez.

**Madame President Pro Tempore** reads Ellis Prescott's summary of his many accomplishments and great dedication.

Motion to vote by Senator Michels and seconded by Senator Drauschak

Vote on the appointment→ vote passes with 24 yay's

Ellis Prescott is officially appointed as a Director in the Treasury Board.

Yay's: Bommer, Drauschak, Michels, D'Attelo, Martin, Kish, Bert, Zayas, Gehrig, Kruger, Downing, Phillips, Bubel, Ewing, Campbell, Curioso, Henriquez, Musick, Foley, Tamayo, McCarthy, Samuels, Corey, Suarez.

**Madame President Pro Tempore** reads Marco Varaldo di Pietro's summary of his many successes and experience.

Motion to vote by Senator Bommer and seconded by Senator D'Attelo

Vote on the appointment→ vote passes with 24 yay's

Marco Varaldo di Pietro is officially appointed as a Director in the Treasury Board.

Yay's: Bommer, Drauschak, Michels, D'Attelo, Martin, Kish, Bert, Zayas, Gehrig, Kruger, Downing, Phillips, Bubel, Ewing, Campbell, Curioso, Henriquez, Musick, Foley, Tamayo, McCarthy, Samuels, Corey, Suarez.

## **B. Confirmation of Social Service School Senator**

### **i. Frances Noory, Social Service**

**Madame President Pro Tempore** reads Frances Noory's summary of her experiences, positive spirit, and why she will be a great addition to the senate.

Motion to vote by Senator Draushack and seconded by Senator Suarez

Vote on the appointment→ Passes with 24 yay's

Yay's: Bommer, Drauschak, Michels, D'Attelo, Martin, Kish, Bert, Zayas, Gehrig, Kruger, Downing, Phillips, Bubel, Ewing, Campbell, Curioso, Henriquez, Musick, Foley, Tamayo, McCarthy, Samuels, Corey, Suarez.

**Frances Noory** stands up and says the pledge:

"I (state your name) do solemnly swear to execute the duties of the office of the Senate, and I will abide by the governing documents of the Student Government Association in order to promote the interests and welfare of the undergraduate students of the Catholic University of America."

Senator Noory is now officially sworn in for the 2022-2022 academic year.

## **C. Committee Chair Updates**

**8:25 PM**

### **i. Senator D'Attelo, Rules and Administration**

**Senator D'Attelo** thanks Madame President Pro Tempore and says their committee had a fruitful meeting Wednesday evening. Senator Michels was able to join the meeting to discuss the bill he is presenting tonight to reconcile a clerical era. He urges everyone to join him in voting in favor of it. He says they also discussed the procedures and implementation of the President Pro Tempore assuming the role of the Vice President for a meeting since it has never been done before. They got to review the details of both the Constitution and bylaws to make sure they are creating the right precedent while respecting the bylaws listed. They appreciate everyone's

patience as they explore this uncharted territory. Additionally, Senator Kish is bringing a resolution tonight to improve and repair any wobbling chairs and tables throughout the Pryz. This has been a project he has been working hard on since last semester. Lastly, Senator Besendorfer is also continuing her work to try and get a printer in Maloney Hall and hopes to review or create a way that academic school clubs could get funding from the treasury board when they may not usually be able to due to the nature of the lack of openness of the club because of the members' majors. He says if anyone is interested or has any input on either of these topics, he urges them to reach out to Senator Besendorfer.

ii. Senator Gehrig, Academic Affairs

**Senator Gehrig** thanks the President Pro Tempore and congrats Senator Noory on her confirmation. She says she is excited for her to join her committee. She says the academic affairs committee had a great meeting. Senator Foley is working on an LC resolution. Senator Corey is working on a resolution for water issues in Ryan Hall. Senator Henriquez is looking into a non-denominational chapel on campus, and she says she is working on a washing machine resolution.

iii. Senator Martin, University Services

**Senator Martin** thanks the President Pro Tempore and says they had a fruitful meeting. She says Senator Kruger is presenting his resolution today and encourages everyone to vote in favor. Senator McCarthy is working on a resolution about foreign language requirements. She is working on a resolution for internship credits and has a meeting tomorrow regarding this.

iv. Senator Michels, Student Resources

**Senator Michels** thanks the President Pro Tempore and says his committee had great discussions. Senator Bommer is working on a resolution about restocking menstrual products and giving the SGA's purchased menstrual products to the Cardinal Closet. Senator Philips passed along a DPS reform resolution. Senator Suarez is working on a resolution to increase awareness for mail-in ballots. Senator Musick is looking into a Title IX reform. His resolution on sexual orientation is almost ready and will be coming soon. He thanks the research team for their hard work, they make their lives easier.

v. Senator Drauschak, Campus Life

**Senator Drauschak** thanks the President Pro Tempore and says they had a great meeting. Senator Curioso has his Epi-pen resolution hitting the floor tonight. He says the DPS appreciation day is likely to be in March and the Brooklyn Arts Project will be around Earth Day.

**B. Senator Michels, Class of 2023 (Bill 004)**

**8:37 PM**

i. A Bill to Reconcile a Clerical Error Created by Bill 003

**Senator Michels** thanks the President Pro Tempore and says that Bill 003 had a slight clerical error, and this bill is fixed it. He says the error went under the radar of everybody and was not caught until it had already been signed. Senator Michels says in the senate mistakes are not

hidden, they are fixed. He says the last meeting the bill was discussed, so there will probably be no debate. He thanks the Rules and Administration Committee for co-sponsoring.

Motion to vote by Senator Drauschak and seconded by Senator Martin

Vote on Bill 004 → vote passes with 24 yay's

Yay's: Bommer, Drauschak, Michels, D'Attelo, Martin, Kish, Bert, Zayas, Gehrig, Kruger, Downing, Phillips, Bubel, Ewing, Campbell, Curioso, Henriquez, Musick, Foley, Tamayo, McCarthy, Samuels, Corey, Suarez

### **C. Senator Curioso, School of Music, Drama & Art (Resolution 022) 8:41 PM**

#### **i. A Resolution to Expand Epi-Pen Access**

**Senator Curioso** says it is great to be back for the spring semester. He apologizes for sponsoring a large number of resolutions over the past few meetings. He also apologizes for adding a co-sponsor back onto this resolution when she had previously taken herself off.

He says he brought this resolution to the floor because many people know someone with an allergy. He says it would be ideal for these students to have access to epi-pens. He says this resolution was not implemented when it was brought up previously because it was the end of the school year and the Eatery was planned to close. Now that Garvey Hall is open and it is the middle of the year, it is a perfect time to do this. He adds that DPS head Kirk McLean is in full support of this. He says DPS cannot all be trained on how to administer this drug because it would not be prudent. He is open to questions.

**Senator Kish** rises and says this resolution will do a lot of good for the community.

**Senator Musick** says the nursing senators are not on this bill because she had concerns about the safety of this drug. She says relying on students possibly being untrained and administering this drug the wrong way is dangerous.

She shares a story about someone experiencing the effects of this drug after it was wrongfully administered. She says allowing students to do this without experience would be a bad decision because even those who are most trained on this drug still get flustered. She urges all senators to keep this in mind.

**Senator Curioso** thanks her for the concerns and says Kirk McLean shares the same concerns.

**Senator Drauschack** says this resolution is in the right direction and says he has questions. He asks who will have access to these Epi-Pens and where will they be stored. He also asks who will be able to use them.

**Senator Curioso** says they'd be stored in a similar way to AED machines and says he trusts that there are people on campus who will know how to administer it. He says whoever has access to it will be up to those who implement it.

**Senator Martin** asks why the previous resolution about this was not implemented and why he expects his to be.

**Senator Curioso** says it happened at the end of the school year last. This time of the year will give it a better chance of being implemented.

**Senator Henriquez** says this is a powerful drug that is extremely dangerous. He says not everyone would be safe to have access to it. He asks what will happen when the pens expire.

**Senator Curioso** says this can be worked out in advocacy.

**Senator Bommer** thanks him and says he has questions about the resolution. He asks if Senator Curioso has spoken to the nurse practitioner on campus or if he has spoken to anyone in dining services.

**Senator Curioso** says that he was told Kirk McLean was the only person he needed to meet with.

**Senator Michels** says the nursing senators have brought up some pretty significant concerns about this. He says that the DC act only mandates that public schools mandate this and he says if we could have a more concrete plan for this regarding storage and administering the drug then he would support it.

**Senator Curioso** says it is not worth it to send the resolution back to the committee because neither of the nursing senators is on the committee.

**Madame President Pro Tempore** makes a point of clarification, saying other senators can be invited to committee meetings.

**Senator McCarthy** says there are Epi-Pens that read out to the user how to administer them.

**Senator Martin** says this could be great but this should be sent back to the committee because there should be more research.

Motion to send Resolution 022 back to committee by Senator Martin and second by Senator

D'Attelo → Passes

A period of debate begins.

**Senator Ewing** says following the concerns brought up by the nursing students she will support sending this resolution back to the committee.

**Senator Corey** says he loves the idea however he cannot overlook the major concerns that were brought up. He says he can't vote for it as is.

**Senator Musick** says she believes it has good intentions but she will vote to send this back to the committee to clear up the concerns. She says she is happy to attend any committee meetings.

Motion to vote by Senator Martin and seconded by Senator Corey

Vote on Resolution 022 → vote passes with 16 yay's, 8 nay's, 0 abstain

Yay's: Michels, D'Attelo, Martin, Kish, Bert, Zayas, Gehrig, Kruger, Ewing, Campbell, Henriquez, Musick, Tamayo, McCarthy, Samuels, Corey

Nay's: Bommer, Drauschak, Downing, Phillips, Bubel, Curioso, Foley, Suarez

**D. Senator Kruger, School of Arts & Sciences (Resolution 023)**

**9:10 PM**

- i. A Resolution to Encourage Community Accountability in Public Safety (RECAPS)

**Senator Kruger** begins and says there are always red and blue lights when he goes to bed from the DPS cars. He says this led him to think that there should be a better way of communicating any concerns to DPS and a method to hold them accountable. He says other schools have this area to share feedback with their equivalents of DPS and says Kirk McLean is open to the idea of something like a Google form, just like dining services has.

**Senator Curisoso** says he has a job with DPS and says they are all super appreciative and says that most cities have non-emergency communication options and so we should do that.

**Senator Michels** thanks them and says this is a great idea.

**Senator Kruger** says he spoke with Corey Crawford and there is an emergency number for this.

**Senator Foley** thanks them and says that having a good relationship with them is important and he wants to know the DPS officers better. He asks if Kirk McLean is in charge of DPS.

**Senator Kruger** says Kirk McClean is the head of DPS. He says in advocacy they can talk about what the platform looks like.

**Senator Bert** asks if the Google Form will be a private form or if would it be a comment section style.

**Senator Kruger** says students' privacy is important and this form will be private.

**Senator Kish** says they have a car in CV as well that always flashes its lights. He strongly suggests voting yes.

Motion to vote by Senator Michels and seconded by Senator Martin

Vote on Resolution 023 → vote passes with 24 yay's

Yay's: Bommer, Drauschak, Michels, D'Attelo, Martin, Kish, Bert, Zayas, Gehrig, Kruger, Downing, Phillips, Bubel, Ewing, Campbell, Curioso, Henriquez, Musick, Foley, Tamayo, McCarthy, Samuels, Corey, Suarez

**E. Senator Kish, Class of 2026 (Resolution 024)**

**9:20 PM**

- i. A Resolution to Stabilize the Tables and Chairs in the Pryzbyla Student Center

**Senator Kish** thanks the President Pro Tempore and says his resolution is straightforward. He says overall it is a smaller matter, very not costly or time-consuming. He says excellence lies in the details and the senate has the responsibility to perform to the best of its ability. Senator Kish states little improvements make it clear to the student body the senate is providing their assistance and supporting the University overall.



**Senator Gehrig** thanks Senator Kish and says the resolution is well thought out. She asks if he has spoken to anyone to see how long this project will take.

**Senator Kish** responds he has spoken to Tim Carney and is in close communication with Karen Porter. He says the repairs are straightforward: you flip the tables over, screw in the screws, and replace the pads at the bottom. He says the chairs will more likely need to be replaced and does not know the cost, but it is a simple fix for the tables.

**Senator Bubel** thanks Senator Kish and says the resolution is great and in full support. He says the tables in Garvey Hall are already wobbling, and asks if this resolution can help with this also or if another resolution is needed.

**Senator Kish** responds he would love to cover all the basis's, so another resolution is a great idea.

**Senator Bommer** thanks Senator Kish for bringing this resolution to the floor. He says he is a frequent studier in the Pryz and gets the one table that does not wobble. He says he also experienced a similar issue in the resident hall lounges, so this is a great resolution to support the community.

Motion to vote by Senator Kish and seconded by Senator Martin

Vote on Resolution 024 → vote passes with 24 yay's

Yay's: Bommer, Drauschak, Michels, D'Attelo, Martin, Kish, Bert, Zayas, Gehrig, Kruger, Downing, Phillips, Bubel, Ewing, Campbell, Curioso, Henriquez, Musick, Foley, Tamayo, McCarthy, Samuels, Corey, Suarez

## **5. Vice President, SGA Updates**

**9:30 PM**

**Madame President Pro Tempore** reads the SGA updates on behalf of Vice President Fahey.

“Good evening, everyone, and welcome to the spring semester of Senate 8. I would first like to thank our President Pro Tempore for serving as the presiding officer of this meeting. We have not implemented this procedure before, so I am especially grateful for your patience and hard work while I am in recovery. I would also like to thank Parliamentarian Norman and our secretaries for making sure everything ran smoothly tonight. Additionally, I would like to offer a warm welcome to our new senator from the School of Social Service! Welcome aboard – we all look forward to working with you. Our SGA Winter Workshop will occur this Saturday, January 28 at 9AM. This will be an opportunity for us to regroup as a Senate body and also discuss some rules and norms. Come with a tangible legislation idea you plan to bring to the floor this semester! This spring I am implementing a new practice in the Senate: inviting one member of our University administration or staff to speak at the start of each of our meetings. This will offer us an opportunity to get to know how our University actually works, what the administration does every day, and how we can best advocate for the student body. This will also allow you to get to know the names and faces behind departments and offices that are responsible for implementing the changes we bring to the Senate floor. The first speaker will be Dean Jennings, Associate Vice President for Student Engagement.”

“I wish all of you a Happy Chinese New Year, which occurred yesterday! The red envelopes you received are a traditional symbol of happiness and good luck. My family gives them to each other every Chinese New Year and for other special occasions, as a reminder to be joyful and thankful. Thank you for all of your well wishes and check-ins, I could not be more grateful for your support. I look forward to connecting with you to discuss ideas to create great legislation this semester. Thank you so much again, and may this new year bring you blessings of happiness, peace and prosperity.”

**Madame President Pro Tempore** thanks everyone for their patience as they all experienced this change in the Senate, as it has never been done before.

## **6. Open Floor**

**9:32 PM**

**Senator Martin** congratulates Senator Noory on her appointment. She says in regards to her previous resolution on the mail room that has been implemented and the mail room hours are now extended.

**Senator Musick** says DPS does take recommendations very seriously, they used to send fleet of officers when a traumatizing situation would happen. She says they received concerns about that, and now they don't do that anymore. She says to encourage your constituents to use this system once it's implemented.

**Senator Curioso** says that while it's unfortunate that his resolution wasn't passed today for he looks forward to workshopping with the nursing senators. He congratulates Senator Besendorfer for her hard work presiding over the meeting.

**Senator Kish** says he has been starting his bit-by-bit initiative and encourages all senators to bring resolutions to the floor, no matter how small they are.

## **7. Adjournment**

**9:35 PM**

Motion to adjourn by Senator Bommer and seconded by Senator Michels

Vote on meeting adjournment → Passes

Meeting adjourned